

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 526 – SB 609

March 21, 2017

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Extends, from 30 to 45 days after the publication date by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA), the effective date for newly published regulations involving cooperative agreements between the TWRA and federal agencies on fishing, hunting, trapping, and reciprocal actions relative to wildlife violations. Requires the TWRA to submit their annual financial report to the Governor and to members of the Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC) by September 30 of each year, rather than by September 15.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (005153): Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Prohibits TWRA funding generated by license sales from being used for wildlife and species eradication and control that the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission has deemed destructive or not protected by law. Establishes that TWRA's authorization for enforcing Title 70 of Tennessee Code Annotated, including but not limited to, offenses concerning illegal hunting, possession, and transportation of any wildlife and species that have been deemed destructive or prohibited by law shall not be diminished. Establishes the effective date of July 1, 2018.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

**Decrease State Expenditures - \$6,300/FY18-19 and Subsequent Years/
Wildlife Resources Fund**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- There will not be a significant impact on the number of licenses issued by TWRA or the associated license fee revenue.
- Based on the information provided by TWRA, the proposed legislation will decrease the Agency's expenditures associated with destructive or unprotected wildlife and species eradication.

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- The recurring decrease in expenditures from the Wildlife Resources Fund, beginning in FY18-19, is estimated to be \$6,300 (supplies \$1,000 + grants \$5,300).
- No positions will be eliminated as a result of this legislation as TWRA does not have staff that is solely dedicated to eradication and control of wildlife and species that are deemed destructive or not protected by law.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

/tdb